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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,432	09/26/2003	Michael Hamilton Coward	046914-5005	8192
9629	7590	07/21/2006		
MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP 1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004				
			EXAMINER WANG, ALBERT C	
			ART UNIT 2115	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/671,432

Applicant(s)

COWARD ET AL.

Examiner

Albert Wang

Art Unit

2115

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is responsive to the amendment filed 2 May 2006.
2. Although independent claims 1-3 are listed as original, their scope has in fact been changed. Originally in claims 1-3, each power supply slot is coupled “to a slot adapted to receive any of a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards”; however as amended, each power supply slot is coupled “to a different slot adapted to receive at least a second type of electronic circuit board”. Furthermore, “power supply”, in the original claims 1-3, has been replaced with “power supply board”.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lewis et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,289,467 (“Lewis”).

As per claim 1, Lewis discloses a method of providing power to a telecom/datacom system, the system having a plurality of slots for housing a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards and a plurality of power supplies, the method comprising:

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forming independently powered slots by coupling each slot adapted to receive a power supply board to a different slot adapted to receive at least a second type of electronic circuit board (figs. 1 & 2; col. 1, lines 17-28; col. 2, lines 29-51);

housing one power supply board in a slot adapted to receive a power supply board (fig. 3, PS board 331A in slot 331B);

housing one electronic circuit board of the at least second type in a slot coupled to a slot housing the at least power supply board (fig. 3, CPU board 321A in slot 321B); and

supplying power to the at least one electronic circuit board of the at second type from the power supply board via the coupled slots (col. 2, lines 29-51).

5. Claims 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Coglitore, U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0228087.

As per claim 2, Coglitore discloses an independently powered slots architecture comprising:

housing for a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards and a plurality of power supply boards, the housing having independently powered slots formed by coupling each slot adapted to receive a power supply board to a different slot adapted to receive at least a second type of electronic circuit board (fig. 1A; figs. 7B & 8B; pars. 0045, plurality of types of boards; par. 0047, slot for computing unit; pars. 0065 & 0075-0078, voltage converters in slot outside of corresponding computing unit); and

power input connectors for providing power from a central power supply to the power supply via the slots adapted to receive a power supply board (pars 0048 & 0055, power input connectors are inherently used).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 3-5 and 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coglitore, U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0228087, in view of Franke et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,979,112 ("Franke").

As per claim 3, Coglitore teaches an independently powered slots architecture for use in a telecom/datacom system, comprising:

a chassis having a front side and a rear side (fig. 1A, chassis 2);

a card cage for housing a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards and a plurality of power supply boards, the card cage having independently powered slots formed by coupling each slot adapted to receive a power supply board to a different slot adapted to receive at least a second type of electronic circuit board (fig. 1A, single card cage; fig. 6, card cages 54-62; figs. 7B & 8B; pars. 0045, plurality of types of boards; par. 0047, slot for computing unit; pars. 0065 & 0075-0078, voltage converters in slot outside of corresponding computing unit);

a cooling module (par. 0053); and

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at least one independent power supply board connected via the coupled slots to a computing unit to provide power to the computing unit (figs. 7B & 8B, voltage converters coupled to computing units 8).

However, although Coglitore teaches the computing unit may perform various functions and comprises I/O ports (par. 0045 & 0057), Coglitore does not expressly teach the computing unit comprising an I/O card. Franke teaches that is common for computing units to comprise an I/O card (fig. 1, processing modules 102-108 with daughter cards 102'-108'; col. 4, lines 1-13). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that Coglitore's computing unit may include an I/O card, as it is well known in the art for server blades to include an I/O card such as Franke's.

As per claim 4, Franke teaches the power provided to the I/O card is provided via a midplane using power pins (fig. 5, midplane MP; col. 8, lines 9-20 & 29-47).

As per claim 5, Coglitore teaches the power provided via a cable from the independent power supply (par. 0047).

As per claim 7, Coglitore teaches a manager module (par. 0051); and Franke teaches a management module (fig. 1, MM 112).

As per claim 8, Coglitore teaches the manager module itself provides power via the coupled slots (par. 0051).

As per claim 9, Coglitore teaches the manager module provides connections to the at least one power supply in the chassis (par. 0051).

As per claim 10, Coglitore teaches an alarm module (par. 0050).

As per claim 11, Coglitore teaches the alarm module includes I/O connectivity for each power supply.

As per claim 12, Coglitore teaches the alarm module further includes at least one LED (par. 0050).

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

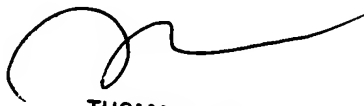
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Albert Wang whose telephone number is 571-272-3669. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30 - 6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AW



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